

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 084456

CODEL ALBERT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (ALBERT, CARL)

SUBJECT: CODEL ALBERT VISIT TO KUWAIT

REF: KUWAIT 1633

1. SPEAKER ALBERT WISHES KHALID AL-GHUNEIM TO KNOW THAT HE DEEPLY APPRECIATES OFFER OF ASSEMBLY'S HOSPITALITY WHILE IN KUWAIT AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS THOUGHTFULNESS BEHIND GHUNEIM'S GESTURE. HE HOPES THAT GHUNEIM WILL UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT BY CONGRESSIONAL PRACTICE SPEAKER IS OBLIGED TO ASSUME COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH HIS VISIT, INCLUDING COSTS OF

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. (FYI: DEPARTMENT HAS SPOKEN TO KUWAITI AMBASSADOR JAFFAR ABOUT FACT THAT SPEAKER CANNOT ACCEPT ASSEMBLY'S HOSPITALITY AT HOTEL. JAFFER UNDERTOOK TO INFORM MFA -- BY POUCH -- OF SPEAKER'S CONCERN, WITH REQUEST THAT THEY GENTLY WEIGH IN WITH GHUNEIM.)

2. PROGRAM OUTLINED PARA 2 REFTEL IS ACCEPTABLE TO SPEAKER,
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WHO LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING CHARGE AND COUNTRY TEAM.

SPEAKER DOES NOT WANT TO ATTRACT UNDUE PUBLICITY, HOWEVER,
AND THEREFORE WISHES NO PRESS CONFERENCE. (FYI: WE ARE

ADDITIONALLY CONCERNED THAT ADVANCE PLANS FOR PRESS
CONFERENCE WOULD POSE SECURITY PROBLEMS.)

3. FOR JIDDA AND TEHRAN: REQUEST THAT IN YOUR
PLANNING FOR CODEL'S VISIT STRICTURES AGAINST SPEAKER'S
ACCEPTANCE OF HOST GOVERNMENT PAYMENT FOR HOTEL BILLS BE
TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

4. FOR JIDDA: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ESTIMATE WHEN TENTATIVE
SCHEDULE FOR SPEAKER'S VISIT WILL BE READY. KISSINGER

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